

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## LIBERTY MAN CONVICTED ON FEDERAL DRUG AND GUN CHARGES

(Beaumont, TX) A 31-year-old Liberty man has been convicted of drug trafficking and illegally possessing a firearm in the Eastern District of Texas. A federal jury convicted **ERWIN EUGENE SEMIEN** today of possession with intent to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine and being a felon in possession of a firearm. The jury verdict was returned this afternoon after a five day trial before United States District Judge Marcia Crone.

U.S. Attorney Matthew D. Orwig praised the cooperative efforts that led to today's conviction, stating "This is another terrific example of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies working together to take criminals off our streets and make our communities safer."

Semien faces up to 20 years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$2,250,000. A sentencing date has not been set.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Texas Department of Public Safety, and the Chambers, Jefferson, and Liberty County Sheriff's Offices and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert L. Rawls.